

**Board of Trustees' Retreat
August 15-17, 2000
University of Southern Mississippi - Gulf Coast**

BE IT REMEMBERED, That the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning of the State of Mississippi met for the Board Retreat at The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast, on August 15-17, 2000. On Wednesday, August 16, 2000, the meeting convened at 8:30 a.m. and concluded at 5:00 p.m. At the above-named place there were present the following members to wit: Mr. Thomas W. Colbert, Mr. William Sterling Crawford, Dr. Stacy Davidson, Ms. Ricki R. Garrett, Mr. Bryce Griffis, Mr. J. Roy Klumb, Dr. D. E. Magee, Jr., Dr. Bettye Henderson Neely, Ms. Virginia Shanteau Newton, Mr. Carl Nicholson, Jr., Mr. Scott Ross, and Ms. Amy Whitten. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carl Nicholson, President, and opened with prayer by Ms. Ricki Garrett.

On Wednesday, August 16, 2000, the following items were discussed: state financial trends, Legislative panel (capital projects), Legislative panel (operating appropriations), economic development, affordability and access, and institutional missions.

Dr. Phil Pepper, the State Economist, did a presentation on state financial trends, discussing the revenue shortfall in FY 2001, general fund estimated built-ins, and the index of economic momentum.

The Legislators discussed that revenue projections are low, that this coming year the sales tax should be steady, and that there are problems in the built-ins and the ending cash balance. The Legislators acknowledged the impact of the deficit on IHL and discussed the alternatives that may be considered next year. The Legislators also discussed that although there was a deficit, funding financial aid would be given priority.

Mr. Don Meiners, Interim President/CEO of the Institute for Technology Development, gave a presentation concerning economic development.

Commissioner Layzell announced that on August 14, 2000, the Court had granted the Petition for Interlocutory Appeal and stayed any further proceedings in the case styled *Dr. Olon E. Ray, et al. vs. Board of Trustees, et al.*

On Thursday, August 17, 2000, the meeting convened at 8:30 a.m. and concluded at 3:35 p.m. The following Board members were present: Mr. Thomas W. Colbert, Mr. William Sterling Crawford, Dr. Stacy Davidson, Ms. Ricki R. Garrett, Mr. Bryce Griffis, Mr. J. Roy Klumb, Dr. D. E. Magee, Jr., Dr. Bettye Henderson Neely, Ms. Virginia Shanteau Newton, Mr. Carl Nicholson, Jr., Mr. Scott Ross, and Ms. Amy Whitten. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Carl Nicholson, President.

On Thursday, August 17, 2000, the following items were discussed: systematic strategic plan, Board goals, FY 2003 preliminary planning & budget priorities, institutional missions, Alcorn State University program study, Mississippi Valley State University program study and an update on the *Ayers* case.

On motion by Mr. Crawford, seconded by Mr. Klumb, and unanimously passed by those present, the Board approved the adoption of the strategic plan as required by state law and the strategic plan for the system. On motion by Mr. Ross, seconded by Ms. Garrett, and unanimously passed by those present, the Board agreed that the Planning, Budget, and Financial Affairs Committee will meet on the Wednesday afternoon before the Thursday Board meeting at 4:30 p.m. Each Institutional Executive Officer will meet separately with the Committee over the next year to discuss the institution's mission statement. The meeting would then adjourn. The Board will have dinner with all of the Institutional Executive Officers.

On motion by Ms. Newton, seconded by Mr. Klumb, and unanimously passed, the meeting was closed to determine the need for Executive Session. On motion by Ms. Garrett, seconded by Mr. Crawford, and unanimously passed, the Board voted to go into Executive Session to discuss *Ayers* litigation matters.

On motion by Mr. Klumb, seconded by Dr. Davidson, and unanimously passed, the Board voted to return to Open Session. In open session, Mr. Nicholson reported that **no action was taken** after discussion of *Ayers* litigation matters.

It was announced that a special Board meeting will be held on Monday, September 25, 2000 at the Board office to discuss the Board's response to the plaintiffs' settlement proposal in the *Ayers* case. The proposal is supposed to be delivered on September 5, 2000.

There being no further business to discuss at the Board of Trustees' Retreat, on motion by Mr. Colbert, seconded by Dr. Magee, and unanimously passed, the meeting was adjourned.